National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

Impact of anthropogenic environmental alterations on vector-borne diseases

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Abstract:

The spread of infectious vector-borne diseases involves at least 3 organisms: a parasite, a vector, and a host. Alterations to the natural environment may change the context within which these entities interact, thus potentially affecting vector-borne disease epidemiology. In this review, examples are presented in which human-driven ecological changes may be contributing to the spread of vector-borne diseases. Such changes include deforestation, agriculture and animal husbandry, water control projects, urbanization, loss of biodiversity, introduction of alien species, and climate change. The global environment is currently being degraded at an alarming pace, potentially placing human populations at increasing risk for unnecessary and preventable outbreaks of vector-borne diseases. Further research is needed to improve our ability to predict and prevent emergence and reemergence of vector-borne diseases from environmental alterations.

Source: http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2605134

Resource Description

Exposure :

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Ecosystem Changes, Precipitation, Temperature

Temperature: Fluctuations

Geographic Feature:

resource focuses on specific type of geography

None or Unspecified

Geographic Location:

resource focuses on specific location

Global or Unspecified

Health Impact:

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Infectious Disease

Infectious Disease: Vectorborne Disease

Vectorborne Disease: General Vectorborne

Resource Type:

format or standard characteristic of resource

Review

Timescale:

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified